

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 CIEP-03

DRC-01 /113 W

----- 119871

R 070120Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL SYDNEY

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5644

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SYDNEY 1650

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJ: COMMUNIST PARTY CALL FOR NATIONAL STRIKE ACTION

REF : MELBOURNE 0924

1. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION LAST NIGHT WITH NSW MINISTER FOR LABOR AND INDUSTRY HEWITT, HE REFLECTED DEEP CONCERN OVER MOUNTING INDUSTRIAL UNREST, LACK OF LEADERSHIP FROM CANBERRA AND OBVIOUS EFFORT OF COMMUNIST LEADER JACK MUNDEY TO EXPLOIT SITUATION. HE FEELS AUSTRALIA FACES A SITUATION MORE DESPERATE THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE GREAT DEPRESSION, NOTING THAT YESTERDAY EVEN SOUTH AUSTRALIA LABOR PREMIER HAD REQUESTED EMERGENCY POWERS, SOMETHING HE SAYS GOVT. OF N.S.W. HAS SO FAR AVOIDED BUT STILL HAS IN MIND.

2. REGARDING MUNDEY, MINISTER HEWITT BELIEVES THE ORIGINAL COMMUNIST IDEA WAS TO ISSUE CALL FOR NATIONAL STRIKE ACTION IN THE WAKE OF PARLIAMENT'S INCREASE OF ITS MEMBERS' SALARIES THUS GAINING BOTH MORAL JUSTIFICATION AND TACTICAL MOMENTUM. FORTUNATELY THE OPPOSITION'S DEFEAT OF LEGISLATIVE SALARY INCREASE IN SENATE HAS THROWN COMMUNISTS OFF BALANCE BUT THEIR ACTION IN EXPLOITING SITUATION STILL SERIOUS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, COMMUNISTS, POLITICAL PARTIES, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR STRIKES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SYDNEY01650  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740215-0445  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** MELBOURNE 0924  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** COMMUNIST PARTY CALL FOR NATIONAL STRIKE ACTION  
**TAGS:** ELAB, AS, (MUNDEY, JACK)  
**To:** CANBERRA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005